

Thomas Jefferson Awards Program Judges Comments

The comments contained in this document are solely those of the judges. Comments are based on the extensive experience in the field of print and broadcast journalism of each judge and their interpretation of the category descriptions and rules as set forth in the Thomas Jefferson SOP.

Any comments or feedback should be directed to your specific service Thomas Jefferson Awards Program representatives.

Thomas Judges Awards Program Judges Comments

(Judge numbering is for reference purposes only. There were seven total judges. Each category was judged by a minimum of two and a maximum of three judges.)

Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	The Morning Air Strike	A pleasant voice and good vocal tone. Sounds like she's talking to you as a friend. Could include more examples of music intros and segues to show your technical abilities, and creativity.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	AM Jamz Session	Good upbeat announcing for morning daypart.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	The Lion's Den	A good effort to establish a personality on the air. Some entertaining features. I enjoyed the Top 5 list of what you learned while shopping. A nice idea for the on-air interview, but don't answer the questions for him; let him answer the questions.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	Mike & Jacqui in the Morning	A nice example of a morning team concept. Creative and entertaining. Try to get a better tape recorder for your out of studio recordings.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	The Morning Air Strike	I found diction sometimes hard to understand. This was mostly a straight read - no sound effects or any additional audio. It bothered me to hear "ya" instead of "you" so often, also dropped g's on words ending in "ing."
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	AM Jamz Session	A strong effort. I found the background audio too loud.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	Mike & Jacqui in the Morning	A very professional effort. Lots of information, both local and from the wider world. Nice use of background audio. Variety of voices and call-in shows technical capabilities. An outstanding effort.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	The Lion's Den	Very creative program. Nice mix of music/effects with information. This broadcaster sounded natural, and like he was having a good time doing this.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	The Morning Air Strike	Very flat presentation. Though there's information, script is repetitive. No sound support for announcer. Voice and diction suffer in an effort to be conversational.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	AM Jamz Session	Pretty standard presentation. could be more creative with sound, supporting various segments of the broadcast e.g. sports, weather, special events could be punctuated w/specific effects or music cues.

Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	The Lion's Den	Snd. montage approach is effective adding variety and humor. Script is strong especially when combined with snd. effects and vignettes.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Entertainment Program	Mike & Jacqui in the Morning	Very effective use of snd effect and multiple announcers to add texture and variety to info presentation. Pre-recorded element was very creative way to reinforce theme.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Spotlight D.J.	A creative spot. Good choice of soundbites to include.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Satellite/USN Signal Loss	A creative idea. The first segment was a bit long (15 seconds) relative to total time of the spot. I would try to condense the first segment a bit.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Secrets of the Stairwell, Computer game	A nice dialogue spot and a creative idea to communicate your message.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Hospital Translators	A well-produced spot with an important message.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Hospital Translators	I was left with the question - what language skills are they looking for? Is anyone who speaks any language wanted? The language in the spot sounded like Spanish but it wasn't all that clear.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Secrets of the Stairwell, Computer game	I would have liked a better sense at the beginning about what this was. At first I thought it was about computer addiction, so to speak - it wasn't till the end that it became clear it was about marital relationships. Apparently it was one of a series but
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Spotlight D.J.	Cute and well-done. Nice mix of message, background music, and bits of narrative audio.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Satellite/USN Signal Loss	Nice effort to help people understand a natural phenomenon that could be frightening. My only real complaint - the audio for the worried man was somewhat muffled and hard to understand.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Hospital Translators	Flat script and read. Reality element could have been served w/more set-up so that scene wasn't so obvious.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Spotlight D.J.	Announce was flat. Didn't really fit w/snd. bite concept which was very creative. Script was very straight w/o any effort to mesh with snd. bite concept.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Secrets of the Stairwell, Computer game	Good concept but script too heavy-handed. Snd. mix was awkward in that the period 'film noir' music didn't really match computer concept. Actors weren't really directed up to the material.

Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Spot Production	Satellite/USN Signal Loss	Good creative concept. Well executed.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Report	MCPON Visits Abe	Good job of interspersing soundbites within the story and the bites were of good quality. I would strive to lead off in a more present tense and creative way than just saying MCPON Terry Scott visited the Abraham Lincoln today. Need to entice the listener
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Report	Soldiers Live Fire In Kuwait	Good use of natural sound. Both soundbites said about the same thing, so I might have chosen something different for one of them so that each adds something to the story.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Report	MCPON Visits Abe	A very straightforward report on a particular event. Simple cuts, with no apparent background sound or natural sound up breaks, made this a somewhat less compelling entry. Reporter had a nice delivery.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Report	Soldiers Live Fire In Kuwait	Nice use of natural sound and sound bites. Very natural read, unforced and conversational without being too informal. Nice flow to script.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Report	MCPON Visits Abe	Very flat, straight forward presentation of MCPON snd. bites w/o much attention to creating any experience of the visit for the audience e.g snds of the Abe to add texture to the report.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Report	Soldiers Live Fire In Kuwait	Good information presented in a creative way w/the use of location snd. to augment content.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	Inside Iwakuni Radio News	I would start with local news first, especially when you have a soundbite to include with a story. Maybe include a little more local news overall. A good, steady delivery; good vocal tone.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	Halloween Newscast	Good vocal tone by the anchor. A nice variety of stories by reporters and inclusion of soundbites. I'm not sure if I would have used the scary laugh at the end.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	KMC News	Why do traffic first? I would start with news. Good quality soundbites. Good news voice.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	The Caribbean Report	A nice upbeat delivery by the anchor. A nice variety of stories included and good use of soundbites.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	Inside Iwakuni Radio News	I'd like to hear a little more inflection from the reporter - it was a very even read. Parts were very naturally said; at other times she seemed to run out of breath, or take overly long pauses. I liked the choice of stories.

Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	The Caribbean Report	This was a good broadcast that seemed to lack some energy. The laser eye surgery report really sounded like it was being read from a script - it was a little stilted. Sports report could have been a little livelier. Stephanie Bissell had a very pleasing
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	KMC News	Nice clear voice. Sometimes the broadcast sounds overmodulated or sibilant.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	Halloween Newscast	It's almost always more interesting when there's a variety of voices and this report did this well. The anchor's script had a nice touch in its phrasing, and her voice worked well with the script. This was full of information that was well-presented. I
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	Inside Iwakuni Radio News	Basic presentation w/one creative element. Announcer's voice isn't very strong, often sounds forced and enunciation is not always good.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	KMC News	Very basic presentation. Announcer's voice is clear but sometimes feels rushed.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	The Caribbean Report	Good perky announce in an otherwise straight forward report. Added value from field reports and sports.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Newscast	Halloween Newscast	Otherwise standard presentation greatly helped by good mix of snd. effects,location snd. and an interesting field report.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Information Program	Suicide Prevention in the Navy	Soundbite quality could have been better. Would it have been possible to have interviewed her in a studio rather than on the phone? Also, why not interview a few other people about this subject. Nonetheless, an important subject to cover.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Radio Information Program	Vicenza Cougar Basketball	The two announcers seem to work well together. Overall, a good description of the action.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Information Program	Suicide Prevention in the Navy	This is a very important subject, but I don't believe it was done as well as it could have been. There were some grammatical errors in script. Audio on phone interview was sometimes difficult to understand. This is an important subject and jazzing up th
Judge #6	Broadcast	Radio Information Program	Vicenza Cougar Basketball	This was an adequate report but it doesn't come up to the level I would expect for a TJ Award of excellence.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Information Program	Suicide Prevention in the Navy	Very straight forward flat announce. Certainly the topic didn't lend itself to much 'creative' interpretation, however, script could have been a bit more personal,perhaps some shipboard ambiance, to offset the rather clinical tone of the interview. Poor te

Judge #7	Broadcast	Radio Information Program	Vicenza Cougar Basketball	Standard sports presentation. However, announcers are redundant often commenting on same aspect in the game rather than offering different perspectives, information or insights. Neither filled the role of a 'color' commentator. Good location snd. mix, kee
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Information Program	Darby Destinations Dublin Field Study	Overall, a good report, but picture quality looks a little fuzzy. I might have followed one student throughout the week culminating with his or her outcome on the final exam. I would have included more info for the audience about the benefits of taking s
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Information Program	Travel in Mexico	Your title says Welcome to Mexico, but then you say and show Welcome to Camp Pendelton. Try to make that less contradictory. Travel tips repeated some earlier info. Might have better organized the program as to what you need to do before you go, while you
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Information Program	A POW Remembers	Too close of a shot on the stone at first. Show the gates when you mention it. A good montage of photos to show his early life. Mr. Nottingham's comments are sometimes difficult to understand. A nice effort to find archive film of Mr. N. Reporter wore dif
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Information Program	Travel in Mexico	This was full of information that servicemembers need to know before they visit Mexico - especially young men and women. Technically this production was problematic - perhaps much of the material was file or stock, over which the producers had no control
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Information Program	Darby Destinations Dublin Field Study	This is a terrific way to get information about continuing education to the audience. There were, however, some weaknesses in the report. Technically, the quality was below average - it didn't look like it was shot on beta, but rather VHS or perhaps a l
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Information Program	A POW Remembers	This was a fascinating production, well-organized and full of interesting information and video. But - Carlisle was badly lit for his outdoor interview, and his audio, especially when it was used as voice over, was often muddy and hard to understand. The
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Information Program	Travel in Mexico	Though information value is high, the production levels are low. Video quality is uneven, ranging from usable to poor. Audio is also uneven. Presence track is missing in some sequences and in some montage sequences, possibly due to a post-production or

Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Information Program	A POW Remembers	Unfortunately, this potentially very moving story is told in a fairly chronological evolution which leaves the real point of the story, the return of the ring until very late. To be more effective, the story point should be near the top and the remainder
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Information Program	Darby Destinations Dublin Field Study	Well structured and informative. Good use of DVD technology combined with good editing and snd mix combined to convey the experience and the information in an engaging piece. However, the writing could have been more effective if the narration had not f
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Family Advocacy	Definitely a good topic to address, but could have been more creative. The message could have been clearer as to what Family Advocacy does.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Why Drive Drunk?	Try to narrow down the safety angles you want to focus on. You could probably do individual spot for each--speeding, drunk driving, not wearing safety belts.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Suicide Prevention	A good topic to address, but it could have been clearer as to for whom the message was directed--a person contemplating suicide or to others.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Space Heater Safety	A nice concept to convey your message.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Why Drive Drunk?	This was about more than drunk driving, which was a surprise to me as I watched. On the whole I liked the technique. One speaker was out of synch. I suspect the rapid cuts are particularly appropriate for the young enlisted audience.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Suicide Prevention	There were many things I liked about this spot. It didn't need narration...the music worked. But the slides with the words on them should have been held longer, o rnot had a pattern on them. And since the song was about friends, and the last image seem
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Space Heater Safety	Good message. Over-reliance on effects, without a real reason for them. What was the music and shouting in the background?
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Family Advocacy	I thought this was a strong but simple and very effective spot. The technique of using dissolves within bites is not always effective but it worked well here. And I liked that a man was included. I also really liked the simple but powerful lighting.

Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Suicide Prevention	Interesting message but literally translated. Therefore the acting is stagey and unconvincing. Concept shows no imagination...how many ways can you visually say loneliness?
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Family Advocacy	Simple but effective message. Music mix could have been better to ensure contribution to the concept. Lighting was good however, internal edits undercut the idea that these were unrehearsed testimonials.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Space Heater Safety	Clear message augmented by creative delivery w/use of visual effects. Narrator voice could have been richer. Read perhaps less monotonal.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Spot Production	Why Drive Drunk?	Imaginative presentation of basic message. However, some very literal interpretations undermine the overall effect of this being a very creative piece. Good snd mix and editing contribute to impact.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Report	Riot Control	Could try to get more of a variety of shots and angles. Seemed like some of the same scenes repeated over and over. Why not talk to one of the Marines on the rioter side and one on the police side.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Report	Up On The Roof	I would have focusd more on his time on the roof and used visual effects to indicate the elapse of time rather than just writing it out. From what was shown, it didn't look like much really happened to him while on roof.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Report	2002 USAREUR Golf Championship	
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Report	Red Soil Erosion	A good report on a subject that many may not know about. You might have found a better closing shot.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Report	Up On The Roof	Where were the kids? What did they think about exceeding their principal's expectations, and forcing him to spend time - how much? - on the roof. WE should have heard from them. Or from parents, about how this got their kids to read. And there were ti
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Report	2002 USAREUR Golf Championship	A very straightforward report, in its writing, presentation and editing. Why call Padilla "flamboyant" if there's no video to support that?

Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Report	Riot Control	What was that big guy in the big blue hat? That was very distracting. Nice use of natural sound up.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Report	Red Soil Erosion	Well-put together primer on erosion and its effects, it used sound from American and Okinawan problem-solvers well. Nice editing.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Report	2002 USAREUR Golf Championship	Journeyman reporting and coverage.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Report	Red Soil Erosion	Standard story w/slight creative boost e.g. water drops on red soil and high contrast shot near the end. Solid video and read.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Report	Up On The Roof	Effective use of visual effects enhanced an otherwise straightforward simple story.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Report	Riot Control	Effective intercutting between narration, picture and natural sound gives this rather straightforward report more impact. Camerawork is slightly above average as exhibited by the hand-held during action. Piece is well written.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Prom in Turkey	An interesting story to tell. Reporter's clothes are a little casual in the standup part.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Destination Verona	I liked the balcony shot.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Remember	A good story to be told. Some great comments from the survivors. Good job of working in archival footage, although maybe you depended on it too much.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Vietnam Wall 20th Anniersary	I liked the shots showing the reflections on the stone. A good story to tell.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Prom in Turkey	Sweet. But I ended up feeling sorry for these kids - I think some of the message of the script was that this can't compare to what they would have experienced at home. A lot of the video seemed very dark.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Vietnam Wall 20th Anniersary	This was an adequate version of a story that's been done by many people. The spot overused reflections in the wall, rack focuses, silhouettes, etc.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Destination Verona	A very slick presentation that was marred by a few things. The balcony "where Romeo climbed up to" - an awkward construction, that ends unnecessarily with a preposition. The Divine Comedy, "who he dedicated" - sorry, it's "which." Why was Verona referr

Judge #6	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Remember	Nice use of file material. Script says 1/3 of crew - we should have a more exact number here.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Prom in Turkey	Straight report but with good storyline. But it seemed rushed. Need more picture storytelling and less direct narration. Could have been served by some more imaginative editing e.g. montage and music for getting ready and a longer montage at end to make
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Vietnam Wall 20th Anniersary	Standard reportage of day and date event. Could have been more with more emphasis on the openning re: price of freedom. Video was uneven. Editing unremarkable.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Remember	A potent story weakly told. Script is linear and appears driven by historical events buring a very human and poinent story about the price of freedom. Technically the interviews are poorly staged and lit. Archive footage is well researched but not very
Judge #7	Broadcast	Television Feature Report	Destination Verona	Solid work. Good use of music and pictures to tell the story. Script is well written to picture and is a direct presentations of information. Both presenters are at ease and conversational. Camera work is interesting w/o being distracting. Use of music
Judge #4	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Souda Bay Newslne	
Judge #4	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	In Stop With Fort Filey	A solid job of anchoring. Could add a little more expression to your on-camera presence.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Incirlik Nightly News	A solid job of anchoring; authoritative delivery; could add just a little more facial expressiveness and personality.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Island Update	A good job of anchoring. An authoritative delivery with some facial expressiveness and personality.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	In Stop With Fort Filey	The anchor was out of synch, which was very distracting. The Halloween story was just sort of thrown together. It all could have used a bit more punch.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Souda Bay Newslne	Color in packages was off. Lighting on anchor wasn't great.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Incirlik Nightly News	Simple, fairly well done. Facility appears to have limited resources.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Island Update	A very creditable local broadcast.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Souda Bay Newslne	Substandard presentation: studio feels clostrophobic, graphics are very elementary.

Judge #7	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	In Stop With Fort Filey	Standard flat newscast.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Incirlik Nightly News	Standard newscast.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Local Television Newscast	Island Update	Standard newscast but feature story had good camera work.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Regional Television Newscast	Daily News Update	A solid job of anchoring. Exhibited an authoritative delivery style.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Regional Television Newscast	Air Force Prime Time	A good job of anchoring. Good facial expressiveness and personality. Good vocal tone. Interesting reports.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Regional Television Newscast	Daily News Update	Anchor came across as very stiff and uncomfortable. There was little creativity in this report, no use of natural or background sound. This is a very utilitarian report for the fleet.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Regional Television Newscast	Air Force Prime Time	Anchor very smooth. Shoplifting story was quite good and well done. Dateline NBC and maintenance shop stories were adequate.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Regional Television Newscast	Daily News Update	Presenter was very stiff. Report didn't have any natural sound or effects.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Regional Television Newscast	Air Force Prime Time	Standard news presentation.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Litterbug	A nice intro. I liked the sarcasm. Audio is difficult to understand in the littering bug police stop. Might consider some other media to convey your message.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Eifel Ready	I liked the radio spots and thought they were better than the TV spots. The gas mask TV spot was clearly understood, but the others could have been made clearer for audience understanding. Nonetheless, a good subject to cover for command information.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Drive to Arrive	Overall, most of the spots were effective in conveying the message, especially the TV spots. A nice variety of spots for various media.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Eifel Ready	I liked the tv PSA's. The drop-ins were OK. radio was fine.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Litterbug	I loved the opening sequence - it was very sophisticated. The rest of it was a little disjointed but the segments were so well put together that it was very effective.

Judge #6	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Drive to Arrive	This is a well-coordinated campaign. I thought CSM Lady was very effective. But the most effective segment was the Army Medical Examiner - this was clever and gripping. Catchy slogan, in general good use of music and sound effects.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Litterbug	Opening was clever i.e. classical music, travelogue narration and litter images. However, the creative open was undermined by the literal interp of 'if you litter, you get a ticket'. Acting is weak and message obvious.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Eifel Ready	Campaign would be more effective if each spot somehow established what the criteria are to qualify as 'eifel ready'. Except for computer graphic approach, elements are very straight forward not nearly strong enough to really have a lasting impact.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Command Information Campaign	Drive to Arrive	Well designed campaign. Message is consistantly presented in a variety of imaginative and impactful contexts.
Judge #4	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOY-Marines	Audio was overmodulated in several places. Watch those levels. A nice on-camera appearance.
Judge #4	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOI/NAVY	A good variety of stories. A nice on camera presence.
Judge #4	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOI/AIR FORCE	A good job on the news packages. They gained and held my interest. Well-produced.
Judge #4	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOY-Army	A nice showcase of a variety of works. I liked the graphics and art work on some of the spots. Creativity was evident. I might let your hair grow a little.
Judge #6	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOY-Marines	See earlier notes on VN war piece. Fire dept. piece audio is overmodulated. Some nice video but not much variety. Story about race - was interesting but I wasn't sure what this was. Color didn't match through the spot. Arhcery festival also overmodul
Judge #6	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOI/NAVY	For the most part, these were interesting, well-done pieces. Miranda's voice needs some work - it wanders into high pitches too often, come across more like she's reading to a child. This is not so noticeable in a single spot as opposed to a string of s

Judge #6	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOI/AIR FORCE	These were very polished, professional pieces. Yeager was beautifully shot. In the CBW piece, natural sound was used well. The Guatemala story was great human interest. Overall the writing, pacing and editing were superior. The one thing that really r
Judge #6	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOY-Army	This broadcaster's weakest area is his on-air/packaging. But when he doesn't have to pull together a package, he's incredibly creative - his strength is behind the scenes. It may be that a little more experience will polish the rough edges on the packag
Judge #7	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOI/NAVY	Though the selection of topics was good quite often the very rudimentary writing served only to undermine the stories impact. The NASCAR piece shows a capability to introduce creative production approaches e.g. the garage montage, this was not repeated i
Judge #7	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOI/AIR FORCE	Though the stories are worthy, the production values are low e.g. no backgrd music or creating any sort of picture and sound montage as part of the Yeager tribute. Pieces are driven by his narration, seldom if ever do the natural situations play as clea
Judge #7	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOY-Marines	Audio quality on firefighter piece is badly distorted. Overall, little attention is paid to the production values, no extra music or editing. Certainly the content is valuable however, the presentation doesn't transcend the standard newscast or presenter
Judge #7	Broadcast	DoD Broadcast Journalist of the Year	BOY-Army	Good creative force brought to bear on each production. Particularly strong in editing and visual conceptualization. Could work on storytelling in an effort to more closely marry script and picture. Sometimes the script was very literal interp of what w
Judge #4	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Your Corps	Second newscast seemed to be of better quality as far as overall production values were concerned.
Judge #4	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Air Force Television News	
Judge #4	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Army Newswatch	
Judge #4	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Navy/ Marine Corps News	A nice idea to go live from the Harry S. Truman.

Judge #6	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Your Corps	The first broadcast was like a series of VNR's stitched together. The second show was much better.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Air Force Television News	
Judge #6	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Navy/ Marine Corps News	These were two very different shows. I thought the guy trying to find the Truman room was pretty funny (and informative) - I've gotten lost on several carriers.
Judge #6	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Army Newswatch	I liked the variety of stories in the first show, especially the one on allergies. Video quality seemed pretty good. This also seemed to be the only flagship program that included some national news/current events. These shows were technically superior
Judge #7	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Your Corps	Feels like a local newscast.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Navy/ Marine Corps News	Standard newscast. However, there is a caretaking for the audience in that the final segment is always about people.
Judge #7	Broadcast	Outstanding Flagship Television Program	Army Newswatch	Utilization of special reporters adds to variety and production values. Good video and editing.
Judge #1	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	Inside the Turret	Writing and story presentation weak at times. Story selection and placement diminishes overall quality (Essay winner as lead story, mosquitoes and termites on 1A same day). A good refer box on page one but inside a bit jumbled in layout.
Judge #1	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	The Mirror	Some nice photography, some good story packages (They're Coming Home)Others are weak, lifeless. Need more clearly written, colorful stories about people, rather than programs, or people behind the programs to bring the pages to life.
Judge #1	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	The Scout	At Ease and Focus are attractive features fronts. 1A doesn't seem as sharp- layout, headlines and photography appear uninspired.
Judge #1	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	Wright Times	Attractive, fresh layouts, good use of graphics, good 1A refers and story selection. You're limited only by your size.
Judge #3	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	Inside the Turret	Design is somewhat cluttered, particularly on the inside pages. Photos vary widely -- from well-displayed and clever to too-small and bland. Writing emphasis is on basics, but lacks the flair to be No. 1 in this category. This is a newspaper that does ma

Judge #3	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	The Mirror	The number of photos used here is good, but a "blocky" design works against the overall impact. Vary photo size and placement for better reach to readers.
Judge #3	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	Wright Times	Front layout on submitted papers was good, but the writing tends to be stilted, with too many acronyms (generally not a problem this year for most). One chart read right to left -- counter-intuitive to how many readers will approach the graphic.
Judge #3	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	The Scout	Very eadable newspaper, both in design and content. A good variety of stories, with good use of photos.
Judge #5	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	Wright Times	Photo quality lacking --detracts from publication. Good blotter reports; should be heplful to community.
Judge #5	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	Inside the Turret	Lacks some consistency (i.e., page-one spelling of "Theatre" and Theater"). Need to identify people who are prominent in photos. Good Derby article/photos; same for Drill Sergeant article.
Judge #5	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	The Mirror	Very good page-one layouts/design. Good page positioning throughout. Article selection much better than average.
Judge #5	Print	Metro Format Newspaper	The Scout	Very good mixof articles. Above average captions and headlines. Good use of photos. Articles interesting and well written.
Judge #1	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Great Lakes Bulletin	Packed full of useful information and news, but a little tedious to get through. A reorganization of best stories first and a system of refers or a table of contents would help tremendously. (The inappropriate behavior guidelines, for example, buried on p
Judge #1	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Pentagram News Paper	An attractive and reader-friendly layout is handicapped by some pretty weak writing.(What were the soldiers' concerns brought up at the forum? We don't read any before the jump. The sniper story is weak and the lede involving Fort Meade is a stretch.)The
Judge #1	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Tailwind	A good mix of information and news, good cover refers to draw readers in. Cover's main image (recylcing)could use a provocative cover line or two to interest reader. The layout's limitations on the use of color inside could be mitigated a bit with more b&
Judge #1	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Okinawa Marine	Overall good newspaper, good mix of features, news, and news-you-can-use. Reader-friendly page one with refers to draw them inside. Inside layouts, except for features like the Dragon Boat races, are somewhat flat and boring, relying heavily on horizontal

Judge #3	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Great Lakes Bulletin	Too 'newsletter' in style and approach for a newspaper with these resources. Photos are plentiful but need variety -- in topic and in sizing. The writing is basic, but flat.
Judge #3	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Pentagram News Paper	Design, photo use and stories have a good-but-not-great approach ... this paper would improve significantly with just slightly more unexpected twists in story topics, ledes and photo use [larger photos or one dramatic shot replacing series, etc.]
Judge #3	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Okinawa Marine	Much too busy for readers to be able to focus on good content. This paper does a good job of providing information across a variety of locations and subjects. Photos vary greatly in use and quality ... from very good and well-displayed to simple place-fil
Judge #3	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Tailwind	Tab layout limitations are tackled well here, though inside pages can fall into a sameness that hurts readability. Covers were clever and gave readers multiple entry points on various subjects.
Judge #5	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Okinawa Marine	Thin content, overall. Good MoH article.
Judge #5	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Great Lakes Bulletin	Not very inspired or inspiring. Headlines convey very little info about articles; don't draw reader into articles.
Judge #5	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Tailwind	Great eye appeal; good articles. Headline error on page 5.
Judge #5	Print	Tabloid Format Newspaper	Pentagram News Paper	Overall, a very good read. Layout is very well done.
Judge #1	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	WINDJAMMER	Lots of stories about tours, awards, events, retirements, appointments, etc. It would be nice to see a profile or news feature focusing on people rather than programs. A pretty primitive looking product that contains (in the back)some useful news and info
Judge #1	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	Marauder	May 10 cover and story were the highlight of the two issues. The rest was pretty ordinary. (Pages for July 26 cover story incorrect in index.) Many colorless, press release-style leads, while a few attempts at something more. Some useful information.
Judge #1	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	Pass In Review	Solid writing anchors this publication; the rest is good-layout, photography, story selection, but not extraordinary.

Judge #1	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	Buckeye Guard	In general, clear, concise and colorful writing raise the level of the features above the ordinary. Their layouts are uneven -while the photography is good, some boxy layouts diminish their impact. Others work (the simple Missions of Mercy and Battle in t
Judge #3	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	WINDJAMMER	The fronts are well done - but effective page and photo design goes away inside, and inside pages are just too plain to keep readers' interests. Heds are lacking in excitement and should vary more -- even considering production limitations.
Judge #3	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	Pass In Review	Photo use is excellent, but design is "flat" inside when compared to exciting covers. The story count is low when compared to others in this category.
Judge #3	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	Buckeye Guard	Covers are well-done. Inside pages are very close to "over the top" ins story count, color type and color blocks ... but still effective.
Judge #3	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	Marauder	Well done: good to great content, cover displays work (even though no "action" in the two submitted), well-written and nice sense of overall balance and scope. Inside photo use could become boring, given limits of page size, but selection here helped.
Judge #5	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	Marauder	Nothing special to earn it a top award, although its emphasis on items of importance to members of the command deserves mention. It isn't easy when articles compete with so many ads.
Judge #5	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	WINDJAMMER	Headlines/captions could use some work. Articles are OK, but generally lack punch.
Judge #5	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other than Flagship)	Pass In Review	Good articles/captions, and very good use of photos. Makes a reader want to turn the page.
Judge #5	Print	Magazine Format Publication (Other then Flagship)	Buckeye Guard	A very pleasant read and an informative publication. Great mix of articles and photos.
Judge #1	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Penny Press	I had a hard time knowing what the stories were about from the headlines...Cold veggies mean hot metal/hamburgers and non-skid, etc. Some of the stories needed "nut-grafs" within the first few paragraphs-a sentence or two to tell you what the story's about

Judge #1	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Kwajalein Hourglass	Overall good newsletter. A good mix of news, news features and community announcements. Headlines are a little vague (headline says teams to search for lost sailor, while story says he's found/ Lib Island Open to Kwajj visitors doesn't really tell us about)
Judge #1	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Enduring Doha	A newsletter with serious, substantial weight, stories well done and photography and layout very engaging. Content is spare (few stories) and short on the news-you-can-use end.
Judge #1	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Associate Press	Very nicely designed with content and visual impact in mind. Lots of information packed onto a small newsletter format cover with teasers in skyline and sometimes 2 stories with ample type on front. Events and classes pages and briefs serve readers well,
Judge #3	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Penny Press	Layout is clean if not spectacular -- sameness could hurt readability. Interior page "flags" or bars are too big, and reduce space available for the good use of photos and stories.
Judge #3	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Kwajalein Hourglass	A rare case where information likely is of such value that it is out of proportion to other areas -- and thus, the basic function of bringing news and info outweighs the average of other areas. Design, writing and approach are serviceable, easy to follow
Judge #3	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Associate Press	Creative use of newsletter format. Photos too small as a rule (even for this size page). A good mix of stories and well-written in the main.
Judge #3	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Enduring Doha	As well done -- given inherent limits -- as I would expect to see. Good variety of stories, imaginative use of photos (again, given limits of production method) and good, tight writing.
Judge #5	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Associate Press	Overall, good content and OK layout. Typo in caption: "catamarand." Needs additional emphasis on upcoming events/activities.
Judge #5	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Enduring Doha	Good choice of topics/material, but lacks polish. Captions could use more emphasis.
Judge #5	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Penny Press	Good overall, but much of the writing lacks polish. Headlines could use some work.
Judge #5	Print	Newsletter Format Publication	Kwajalein Hourglass	Tells readers what they need to know, and then some. Good selection of articles and CI material.
Judge #2	Print	News Article	After the Storm	Lead is choppy and needs a little better flow. Good information provided, but conclusion could be stronger.

Judge #2	Print	News Article	500 New Homes for Enlisted Navy and Marine Corps Families	Wordy lead. Good info gives readers help in determining housing options.
Judge #2	Print	News Article	'Pirates' plunder Yukon vessel	Some predictable writing "Marines came in waves..." leaves little to reader's imagination.
Judge #2	Print	News Article	Small Pox Vaccinations	Story puts issues in perspective and may allay some concerns about the vaccine.
Judge #2	Print	News Article	Ice storm hits, Team Vance responds	Not often I get excited about an ice storm. This story has some real movement to it. Lead provides impact - like the storm!
Judge #3	Print	News Article	After the Storm	Lede takes too long to develop real story line. Main body of piece has information but lacks passion (which, for a rescue story, should be present) from the actual participants.
Judge #3	Print	News Article	'Pirates' plunder Yukon vessel	Story lacks quotes from participants -- only person quoted is commanding officer. Great opportunity missed for real look inside the "takedown" provided by the people who did it.
Judge #3	Print	News Article	Small Pox Vaccinations	A solid piece hurt by a wordy lede that could have been 2-3 sentences. Quote use was good in the main story.
Judge #3	Print	News Article	500 New Homes for Enlisted Navy and Marine Corps Families	Good use of quotes from family moving into housing, as well as officials involved. Piece ran a bit long for material involved.
Judge #3	Print	News Article	Ice storm hits, Team Vance responds	Factual lede works as a basic approach, but I wonder if it just told everyone what they all knew ... as opposed to immediately moving the story forward. Thorough job of getting and providing information.
Judge #2	Print	Feature Article	HMLA-367 blows door off training	Watch overuse of jargon. Good quotes help to tell the story.
Judge #2	Print	Feature Article	NES Security	Stories can be found in many different places and offer many perspectives. This one uses good quotes to focus the reader.
Judge #2	Print	Feature Article	3 Minutes that Awakened a Service	Very effective storytelling. Reader gets a sense of being on the Blackthorn.
Judge #2	Print	Feature Article	For Love & Honey	Strong storytelling, thorough reporting of a unique topic.
Judge #2	Print	Feature Article	Dyess NCO fills in as 'Mr.Mom' during OEF	A story that so many readers can identify with. Colorful, readable and sound quotes.

Judge #3	Print	Feature Article	3 Minutes that Awakened a Service	Lede is in the second graf. The writer attempts to set scene with facts, but the sentence "Ships are not supposed collide in perfect visibility." is a great hook and gives you the thrust of the story much quicker. Story transitions from incident to memori
Judge #3	Print	Feature Article	HMLA-367 blows door off training	The lede is fine, but the story bogs down in too much detail (and I like detail). "Mechanics" rated lower because it reads too formally, like a briefing paper. Even the quotes seem structured rather than conversational ... never an emotional moment.
Judge #3	Print	Feature Article	NES Security	Basic story, but subject of the story is quoted early and then never again. Lacks details on how he does his job and catches shoplifters.
Judge #3	Print	Feature Article	For Love & Honey	Multi-setence lede works (most do not), and subject matter is introduced quickly. The main body is a good blend of quotes and information. Nice, informative piece.
Judge #3	Print	Feature Article	Dyess NCO fills in as 'Mr.Mom' during OEF	Very well-written story packed with information and quotes that bring in vivid word pictures the experience of this young soldier caring for his friends's two children. Textbook example of getting and using good quotes from your subject. [Even though the
Judge #2	Print	Commentary	The third Wave is coming: sing or swim	An important issue that seems a bit hard to follow. Writer's opinion unclear.
Judge #2	Print	Commentary	Old Corps, New Corps....	A bit wordy. Good use of experience to frame argument for "new" versus "old."
Judge #2	Print	Commentary	'Thoes who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves'	Thorough use of facts to establish storyline. Clearly written.
Judge #2	Print	Commentary	What's in a name? When it comes to heritage, more than you might think	Every child who was heckled for something growing up can identify with this writer's perspective.
Judge #3	Print	Commentary	The third Wave is coming: sing or swim	Lede is enticing, but the piece slows through the main body of work and the conclusion is a simple kiss-off of the subject. The opinion expressed deserved more at the end -- even a restatement of the lede would have been better than a soft end.

Judge #3	Print	Commentary	Old Corps, New Corps....	Neither the lede nor conclusion do justice to this piece with a point of view, which does well despite the opening and ending. [I like the second graf, edited a bit to make it clearer, as the lede]
Judge #3	Print	Commentary	'Thoes who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves'	Even though it's not news that Lincoln was a great president and leader, this commentary manages to tie Lincoln's life to contemporary life for sailors and does so without sappy emotion. [I would not have referred to Lincoln as "Abe" given the serious nat
Judge #3	Print	Commentary	What's in a name? When it comes to heritage, more than you might think	I wanted to read more, but had the basics ... which is where success in opinion writing is measured. A somewhat common topic handled well, with a good lede the immediately brings you into the piece, nice transitions and a clear end make this very readable
Judge #2	Print	Sports Article	It's Not Soccer	Traditional coverage but tends to lack some of the excitement of rugby. Sounds more like a narrative without the color.
Judge #2	Print	Sports Article	Inmates Sorge over Weapons in OT, 41-34	Traditional coverage story that covers most of the bases. Could use a little more zing for reader to experience the game.
Judge #2	Print	Sports Article	Subscol Sailor hits his target during national competition	Reader gets a real sense of the determination the sailor felt in the competition.
Judge #2	Print	Sports Article	Special Olympics 2002	A highly readable story that shows good reporting, writing and editing.
Judge #2	Print	Sports Article	Lieutenant give new meaning to Ironman triathlon	This story provides intrigue, interest and color.
Judge #2	Print	Series	Lindbergh Series	This has an incredible amount of information in it. However, I felt I was listening to a television broadcast and left wondering about attribution. Reporter took a little too much literary license.
Judge #2	Print	Series	"Changing the face of the Navy March 14,2002"" "Navy Chief recalls horrors of Ground Zero 'March 21	So much to tell the reader, yet so much that needs tighter editing. Story provides real insight.

Judge #2	Print	Series	Marines take aim on digitized-battlefield	Probably the best leads in the competition. Clearly the writer relishes the role of storyteller. Nicely edited. Some problems with overuse of jargon.
Judge #2	Print	Series	The 442nd-A Heritage Series	This is a beautifully done series. It shows that planning, writing and editing work well together. As a reader, I felt the impact of the events. Some of the timelines tend to drag it down a bit and detract from the full package.
Judge #3	Print	Series	Lindbergh Series	As a "compilation" rather than original interviews and authorship (as its competitors are), I rated it lower in those categories -- there is no way tell how much of this is lifted (and credited only at the end of the third article) and how much is contrib
Judge #3	Print	Series	Marines take aim on digitized-battlefield	Much shorter than competitors in this category, this series nonetheless brought readers into the simulator process. Quotes were less conversational and more technical than I would prefer ... but the subject matter did not lend itself to informal chatter. N
Judge #3	Print	Series	"Changing the face of the Navy March 14,2002" "Navy Chief recalls horrors of Ground Zero 'March 21	Ledes were well done and moved readers quickly into the stories. Quotes generally were well-used, though stories sometimes bogged down midpoint with long strings of comments. Still, each story had vivid images and did not track over each other. Very good
Judge #3	Print	Series	The 442nd-A Heritage Series	A massive amount of stories from sources, data on 422nd and many decades of history to cover were a challenge to this writer -- who generally overcame those hurdles to produce a well-ordered if lengthy series. I would have opted for a bit less detail ...
Judge #2	Print	Stand-Alone Photograph	Plane Down	Excellent photo featuring action, color and strength. Nicely framed.
Judge #2	Print	Stand-Alone Photograph	Warrior Spirit	Beautiful color photo that shows great strength and focus. This shows the importance of angle.
Judge #2	Print	Stand-Alone Photograph	AFFF Dance	Outstanding photo that shows wonderful emotion and technical competence.
Judge #3	Print	Stand-Alone Photograph	Warrior Spirit	Outstanding composition, excellent technical quality, and demonstrative of a photographer who considered text, context and external elements in "seeing" the image then captured by the camera. Several stories are here: Father and son, modern and past life,

Judge #3	Print	Stand-Alone Photograph	Plane Down	Outstanding composition, excellent technical quality, and demonstrative of a photographer who considered text, context and external elements in "seeing" the image then captured by the camera: The angle includes the plane's tail section, rescue/recovery cr
Judge #3	Print	Stand-Alone Photograph	AFFF Dance	Outstanding composition, excellent technical quality, and demonstrative of a photographer who considered text, context and external elements in "seeing" the image then captured by the camera. Seeing the moment makes this photo stand out -- it easily could
Judge #2	Print	Photojournalism	The Bullfight	Too much sameness, despite the effort to document the time-frame of a bullfight. Good composition.
Judge #2	Print	Photojournalism	Tiny Dancers	Lovely photos that are well edited. Despite the headline, the photos needed to include some more heads (not just feet).
Judge #2	Print	Photojournalism	Force Skills 2002	Some excellent color photography. Overuse of similar 'poses' weakens the total effort.
Judge #2	Print	Photojournalism	Ground Zero	Photos show the senselessness of the tragedy and skill on the photographer's part to document an event. Would've liked to see some variety, though in photos used.
Judge #2	Print	Photojournalism	No Rose Garden Here	Beautiful composition, photos well cropped. There is enough variety to feel the toughness of the day-to-day life.
Judge #3	Print	Photojournalism	The Bullfight	Package seems disjointed and not smooth -- and sequence shots don't work as impactful, emotion-evoking elements. I applaud the attempt at diverse perspectives, but perhaps less variety here would be "more" in making the package hang together. The main pho
Judge #3	Print	Photojournalism	Tiny Dancers	The overall sense of composition is excellent and lthe changes in perspective and focus help make this a very good package ... but I need to see more "face" and less "feet" for this to work for most readers.
Judge #3	Print	Photojournalism	Force Skills 2002	Technical quality is high, and demonstrates a good sense of composition and subject matter. However, too many photos are from the same perspective and too many photos are used in the package as submitted -- visual overload for readers can leave them wonde

Judge #3	Print	Photojournalism	Ground Zero	Well done photos with good composition and technical quality ... this entry was an excellent job and while the photos and occasion have powerful impact, no single image carries such impact as to place it ahead of this year's entries.
Judge #3	Print	Photojournalism	No Rose Garden Here	Even though photo reproduction was the worst among the entries, the photos clearly were the best in terms of telling a story, in variety and subject matter and in composition.
Judge #2	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Writer)	The Globe	This is an important story but needs strong editing.
Judge #2	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Writer)	It don't mean nothing	An important story that needs to be more clearly focused. There is no need for the reporter to write herself into story.
Judge #2	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Writer)	MMI Williams takes a turn at the 'wheel'	Good story about an event - reader can live through the experience.
Judge #2	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Writer)	Cancer can't dim desire for Air Force career	Sensitive use of language and style to write an effective story that could tend to be dismal.
Judge #3	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Writer)	The Globe	The lede is too long, too wordy and buries the "news" that the town and camp long have worked together. In the main body of the story, sentences frequently run-on, with phrases that really don't advance the story. Even giving the subject is not "breaking n
Judge #3	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Writer)	MMI Williams takes a turn at the 'wheel'	Nice piece, but lacks the depth of other entries. Lede is serviceable but not more than that. I like the consideration for readers by not disclosing the outcome of the subject's appearance on "Wheel of Fortune" until after the show aired (and providing bo
Judge #3	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Writer)	Cancer can't dim desire for Air Force career	A well-done story with the proper approach to quoted material, details and transitions -- yet, in the final assessment, lacking in the vivid detail and emotion [perhaps through quotes] that would lift this story to the "great" level.

Judge #3	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Writer)	It don't mean nothing	Perhaps the best writing entry in this year's TJ competition. This one sets up the story with a great lead-in (one of the few times an "I" lede works for me) and then makes great use of quotes and descriptive elements to carry the story forward. Very well
Judge #2	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photographer)	Football	Not much to this standard photo from a football game. Action, strength and color.
Judge #2	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photographer)	"You're Mine!" (Community lending All-Weekend Support)	Good emotion and focus.
Judge #2	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photographer)	Combat Medics	Rough, raw emotion clearly transmitted through the photographer's eyes.
Judge #2	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photographer)	Remembering our own	Emotion comes through with strategic, well planned shots - clearly some thought before he went out shooting.
Judge #3	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photographer)	Football	A fine photo of sports action -- but it's just one of many such photos each season.
Judge #3	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photographer)	Combat Medics	Nice photo work -- technically and visually -- but perhaps one too many photos for the page [lose one of the smaller, middle photos?]. More white space would increase the impact of the overall package -- which is well done.
Judge #3	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photographer)	"You're Mine!" (Community lending All-Weekend Support)	Nice single shot ... I would have cropped tighter, still showing "at attention" but allowing the reader a closer look at the kids' faces ... particularly the kid on the right side.
Judge #3	Print	Contribution by Contractor/Stringer (Photographer)	Remembering our own	Very well-done photo essay, with a variety of individual subjects, perspectives and approach. Technical aspects are top-rate and the piece clearly says the photographer understood the story and the subject.

Judge #1	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Coast Guard	Some wonderful photography and good use of it in some dramatic layouts. Where this mag falls short is in the writing which is for the most part uninspired or predictable.
Judge #1	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	All Hands Magazine	Some excellent photography and layout but at times the layout overwhelms the type and it's hard to track a story when the flow is interrupted. Writing is the weakest element in this mag.
Judge #1	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Marines Magazine	Solid writing with a fair sprinkling of cliches, some very nice layouts and photography. You need a designed index in Jan-June 2002 issue rather than a story list, to draw readers into the story with photos and provocative intros. Some layouts with overla
Judge #1	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Soldiers Magazine	Excellent West Point and Pentagon layouts. A good mix of features and information. Writing is a bit plain, but serviceable. In general, photography and layout outshines writing. Good writing can be visual, too, and hold its own. In general, a good mag.
Judge #1	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Airman Magazine	Terrific 9/11 anniversary issue. (could have had a better cover line. the one you used is getting old a year later). Strong people stories with strong photos and layouts as well.
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Coast Guard	Interior pages could be much better with just a slight more attention to effective design -- as opposed to design tricks. Avoid reverse type and laying type over photos, and tighten pages and layout generally.
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Marines Magazine	Layout is just too varied to be effective for reader -- which I hesitate to say, because many individual elements are bright, imaginative -- and, in the submitted issues, even funny. `
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	All Hands Magazine	Content is well-done, but design (interior pages especially) fights against readability. Good photo use overall, but pages can get too "busy" and thus less effective.
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Soldiers Magazine	Attack on America timeline approach is perhaps the most imaginative and well-done "devices" in this year's TJ entries -- and offers a unique example of when a "trick" works because it's simple, packed with information and keeps a focus on what the mission

Judge #3	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Airman Magazine	Excellent integration of photos with content, with good variety in subjects and in approach by writers. One slight tweak: type face and spacing seems too light for content and excellent design otherwise.
Judge #5	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Coast Guard	Great photos and very good layout, but at the cost of substance. Needs greater attention to developing articles and telling the audience what it needs to know.
Judge #5	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Marines Magazine	A decent pub, but I expected more from the "double issue." Strong suit is its support of CI goals.
Judge #5	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Airman Magazine	Good articles, but design somewhat lacking. More effort needed on captions (found a typo) and heads to get readers into the articles.
Judge #5	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	Soldiers Magazine	A solid, "worth-the-read" publication. Design seems somewhat constrained. I would have preferred to see a "second" issue other than the pictorial special in the competition, although I'm sure that became a "keeper" for many readers.
Judge #5	Print	Outstanding Flagship Publication	All Hands Magazine	Excellent selection of articles -- well written, good layout. This one got me into the articles and kept me there. Very good captions.
Judge #2	Print	Outstanding Flagship Writer	Keeping Faith- Book Review	Reporter does well reporting about the book, but needs to edit a little more tightly and focus.
Judge #2	Print	Outstanding Flagship Writer	Inside The Mountain	Well reported. Would be improved by better editing of longish, repetitive paragraphs.
Judge #2	Print	Outstanding Flagship Writer	University of Hercules," "Unfinished work," "Seek, Attack, Destroy	Reporter does a good job of getting the reader's interest and keeping it. Nicely crafted.
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding Flagship Writer	Keeping Faith- Book Review	Good work overall, but dry in too many instances -- more report than reporting, particularly when compared to other entries this year in this category.
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding Flagship Writer	Inside The Mountain	Overall, nice work with good use of quotes and information. All entry stories were very readable. In both the "Mountain" and "Forever" pieces, tighter writing would have focused the pieces more and avoided a drop in momentum for readers in mid-point. In t

Judge #3	Print	Outstanding Flagship Writer	University of Hercules," "Unfinished work," "Seek, Attack, Destroy	The entries - particularly the report on "Unfinished Business" - are very well researched and written. The stories deal with emotional and technical elements very well -- quite a stretch for a writer.
Judge #1	Print	Web-based Publication	Torii Online	This site feels like a sampling of the news that's out there rather than "the whole story." It's certainly topical with a SARS story offered, but I'd guess there's other news that could be posted as well. I didn't see any briefs or stories or departments
Judge #1	Print	Web-based Publication	Guantanamo Bay Gazette	In general, this site offers a range of information, but I couldn't open the Gazette on line, and therefore the site was devoid of news at the time I was using it. Otherwise, easy to navigate.
Judge #1	Print	Web-based Publication	U.S. Marines In Japan	An impressive homepage that displays a huge range of information readily accessible to users. The site is packed with clearly written information and valuable links. A joy to use.
Judge #3	Print	Web-based Publication	Torii Online	Navigation was easy in part due to a small number of icons ... and only one story appearing in "news." Overall, not a sense of thoroughness and a disconnect with immediate news in favor of "bulletin board" material -- necessary, but not a read viewership
Judge #3	Print	Web-based Publication	Guantanamo Bay Gazette	An electronic version of an existing publication is under no obligation to resemble the print "partner," and display of a current edition -- as done here -- as a clickable icon is a solid technique in which to define the relationship. I was not able to ea
Judge #3	Print	Web-based Publication	U.S. Marines In Japan	Very clean, clear site -- use is intuitive and thus great for readers. It manages the transition from print to Web by using the best of both. Lots of standing news along with a sense of being on top of latest news. Very interesting and news-filled front w
Judge #5	Print	Web-based Publication	U.S. Marines In Japan	This site gets an "A" for its press releases and its use of other articles and photos. The "Marine Page," in particular, is extremely well done. Good instructional videos, and very good links to English-language reports from Japanese publications.
Judge #5	Print	Web-based Publication	Torii Online	The community calendar, alone, makes this a four-star site. The CI content -- items such as the SARS info -- is undoubtedly an attraction for family members as well as soldiers.

Judge #5	Print	Web-based Publication	Guantanamo Bay Gazette	This site is, no doubt, most helpful to personnel not yet assigned to the command. It leaves little left for a sponsor to do, other than refer incoming folks to the site. The CNRSE page is particularly good -- moving graphics are exceptional.
Judge #2	Print	Outstanding New Writer	Underdog "Bomb Squad" unloads on "Hitmen"	Writer has included basic information but needs stronger transitions and more movement in the stories.
Judge #2	Print	Outstanding New Writer	Airman 1st Class Stacia Tieman	Good use of quotes. Needs to focus on more direct style, rather than literary, in telling the story.
Judge #2	Print	Outstanding New Writer	Franks To USS Oak Hill 'These colors Don't Run'	Nice even writing - good use of quotes, moves to focus quickly. Needs some tighter editing.
Judge #2	Print	Outstanding New Writer	Outstanding New Writer	Excellent writing style that uses best storytelling techniques. Good use of quotes.
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding New Writer	Underdog "Bomb Squad" unloads on "Hitmen"	Writing covers the basics, but no single piece stands out -- either among the entries by this writer, or the entire category.
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding New Writer	Airman 1st Class Stacia Tieman	Overall, thorough writing, but no single distinguishing element that puts this set of entries ahead of another,
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding New Writer	Franks To USS Oak Hill 'These colors Don't Run'	Several ledes were gimmicky or offered incomplete "story hooks" to the detriment of effectiveness. Sports story relies on cliches. Overall, good but not "great" writing.
Judge #3	Print	Outstanding New Writer	Outstanding New Writer	A writer who can handle diverse assignments with skill, who writes with impact and emotion, who understands quotes and images.
Judge #2	Print	DOD Print Journalist of the Year	Pirates Plunder Yukon Vessel	Good sense of news. Needs some tighter editing of stories. Nice use of quotes.
Judge #2	Print	DOD Print Journalist of the Year	DOD Print Joy entries	Shows strength of community through writing. Stories sometimes have dual focus.
Judge #2	Print	DOD Print Journalist of the Year	News(2) Cole Returns home/May 2;	Stories are thought-provoking and colorful. Reporter is not afraid to use emotion to strengthen story. Some stories would benefit from tighter editing.
Judge #2	Print	DOD Print Journalist of the Year	Kent Cummins	This entry clearly is strong across the board. Very focused writing and editing. Understands the nature of news and the power of accuracy.

Judge #3	Print	DOD Print Journalist of the Year	DOD Print Joy entries	Solid writing, though ledes tended to be too long and wordy. The writing is clear and use of quotes and information is logical and easy to read. Only in the "missing girl" story did I have a sense that the story should have been better organized ... there
Judge #3	Print	DOD Print Journalist of the Year	Pirates Plunder Yukon Vessel	Well written and researched, the main body of each submitted story was solid ... but ledes were not up to par with the overall content. The writer "forced" too much, rather than allowing the simple news element to provide a natural open. Still, a strong e
Judge #3	Print	DOD Print Journalist of the Year	Kent Cummins	Strong, clear ledes are a hallmark of this entry -- and add greatly to the effectiveness of each story. Good use of quotes and clever integration of factual information into story flow.
Judge #3	Print	DOD Print Journalist of the Year	News(2) Cole Returns home/May 2;	Strong writing combined with excellent vocabulary and style produce vivid images and emotional content (without resorting to writer's tricks) -- a powerful package for readers. Even the "I" element in the Cole story worked for me (the writer's mention tha